

For Immediate Release

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2011 National Dairy Shrine Kildee Scholarships Announced

Denmark, Wis. – Three students have been honored as the 2011 recipients of the Kildee Scholarship Award, including two graduate students and one undergraduate.

Receiving the Kildee Graduate Studies Scholarship are Chelsea Holschbach and Hannah Thompson.

Chelsea Holschbach has recently completed her first year at the University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Veterinary Medicine after choosing to forgo her senior year at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she majored in Dairy Science. She grew up on a 120-cow registered Holstein farm in southwestern Wisconsin where she works closely with the farm's veterinarians to manage herd health and reproductive care as well as helping with calf care and milking.

Chelsea has excelled academically and in extracurricular activities. She has been named to the UW-Madison Dean's Honor list for each of her undergraduate semesters. In 2010, she earned the David P. Dickson Memorial Award for the High Individual in Oral Reasons and was second High Individual Overall at the National Intercollegiate Dairy Judging Contest at World Dairy Expo. Chelsea has been an active member of the UW-Madison Badger Dairy Club, Production Medicine Club, Pathology Club, Student Chapter of the American Veterinarian Medical Association, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Student Council and the Association of Women in Agriculture.

Hannah Thompson has earned her bachelor's degree in Agricultural Communications with minors in Agribusiness and Spanish from The Ohio State University and will begin her graduate studies in Agricultural and Extension Education there this fall. Hannah will focus on crisis communications in agriculture to discover how agricultural organizations can better respond to issues of food safety, animal care and other controversies. She grew up in Maryland and became involved in the dairy industry, exhibiting cattle on the local, state and national levels. She currently serves as the National Red & White Dairy Cattle Association Queen.

Hannah has an excellent academic record and has been selected as one of the top 20 seniors in the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences for 2011. She is also very active outside of academics and was named an All-American at the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest in 2010. Hannah is a member of the Buckeye Dairy Club where she has served as the Yearbook Committee Chair, Corresponding Secretary and Buckeye Classic Sale Co-Chair. She is also involved with Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, Alpha Zeta Partners Agricultural Honorary and Scarlet and Gray Ag Day Committee among numerous breed associations.

Undergraduate Scholarship - Rucks

Earning the Kildee Undergraduate Studies Scholarship is Lindsey Rucks. Lindsey is attending The University of Florida with a major in Agriculture Education and Communication with an emphasis in Leadership Development.

Lindsey is an active member on her dairy, caring for 50 head of calves and selecting mating sires for her registered Brown Swiss herd. She has exhibited her Brown Swiss cattle on state and national levels and earned multiple State and National Bell Ringer Awards. Lindsey is also employed as an advertising sales specialist with Purebred Publishing, is certified for DMS mating, is a leadswoman for Modern Associates Sales and maintains a website for her Brown Swiss herd.

Lindsey has had a successful 4-H dairy judging career. In 2008 she was second at the National 4-H Contest. In 2009, she earned first place overall and first place reasons honors at the International Youth Judging Contest in Edinburgh, Scotland.

On campus, Lindsey is a member of University of Florida Block and Bridle, Gator Collegiate Cattlewomen, Future Agriculture Communicators and Leaders of Tomorrow, the dairy judging team and quiz bowl team. After completing her undergraduate degree at the University of Florida, Lindsey plans to work in dairy promotion and marketing.

The annual National Dairy Shrine awards banquet will be held on October 6 during World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis. For more information about the banquet or about students, producers and industry representatives being recognized by National Dairy Shrine, please contact Dr. David Selner, Executive Director, at (920) 863-6333. National Dairy Shrine membership information is also available by phone or online at www.dairyshrine.org. Dairy enthusiasts are encouraged to become a part of this important organization to help honor our heritage, inspire future leaders and promote the dairy industry.